



The Wellington Building

Landmark building is a legacy for future generations

Originally built in 1927, the Wellington is a distinctive Beaux Arts building in Canada’s capital city. NORR was chosen to transform it from insurance office building to dignified facilities for the House of Commons. Our design team made sure the remaining character-defining heritage rooms on the ground floor were preserved and restored.

The building was stripped back to its internal structural framing, building systems completely replaced and seismic and security upgrades implemented. The demolition of the central third of the building allowed us to insert a more robust structural core. Multi-purpose rooms on the third and fourth floors offer views to the parliament buildings and surrounding city. A plant-filled atrium features a sculptural staircase and links the reconstructed 1927 and 1959 lobbies. On the upper floors, our design team lined the multi-story Library of Parliament with wood panels and sculptural shells of copper recycled from the historic 1927 roof. This monumental building now serves as an important part of the Canadian capitol’s long-term revitalization.

CLIENT	Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)
PORTFOLIO	Public Buildings
SIZE	509,132 SF (47,300 SM)
LOCATION	Ottawa, ON, Canada
DATE	July 2016
SERVICES	Architecture MEP Engineering Interior Design

AWARDS

- 2019 Canadian Green Building Award in the Existing Building Upgrade Category
- 2018 World Architecture Community WA Awards (10+5+X (28th Cycle), Realized Project Award
- 2018 Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) Design Excellence Award
- 2018 World Architecture Community WA Awards (10+5+X (28th Cycle), Community Selected Award
- 2017 Copper Development Assoc. Inc. North American Copper in Architecture Award, Restoration/Renovation
- 2017 Contract Magazine 38th Annual Interiors Awards, Restoration + New Interiors Category
- 2017 Ottawa Architectural Conservation Awards - Award of Excellence – Restoration (large-scale)
- 2017 Ottawa Architectural Conservation Awards – Adaptive Re-Use
- 2016 Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals Award of Excellence in Conservation Architecture
- 2016 INTERIOR DESIGN Best of the Year Award, Institutional Category Honoree
- 2015 Consulting Engineers of Ontario - Award of Merit, Abatement, Demolition and Seismic Upgrade
- 2014 Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals, Award of Excellence, Heritage Planning - Adaptive Reuse

[View Online](#)

Public Buildings

Public sector decision-makers look to NORR's experienced team to help navigate the full project cycle from planning to design to execution. Our extensive work in public buildings ranges from government campuses and embassies to cultural buildings and museums.

Valued Partner at All Levels of Government

NORR is a valued partner at all levels of government - federal, state, provincial, county and municipal. Our proven track record in large-scale, heritage conservation, adaptive reuse and renovation projects spans more than forty years. We uphold internal governance practices, employ proven program and project management methodologies and use value-based design from concept to implementation. We have worked on highly secure projects involving confidential documentation and when required, have engaged advisory boards or peer reviews. Every project has a specific strategy based on requirements and vision.

Managing Complexity

Public building design is a Center of Excellence at NORR. Our designated team of architects, engineers, planners and designers have deep knowledge in managing the complexity of purpose-driven design. From current circulation and constraints of an existing spatial environment, to detailed project phasing and staging, to the design of new structures and implementing workplace strategies, our programs will provide the right solution. Our role is to engage our clients and stakeholders to realize the project vision. The result: a design that makes a positive social impact on the communities served.

CONTACT

Jonathan Hughes, Chief Operating Officer
T 416 944 7837
E jonathan.hughes@norr.com
norr.com

